

Message Text

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54

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 SAM-01 /087 W
----- 041738

P R 081030Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7940

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION USUN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

FOSIF ROTA

COMSIXTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1300

USCINCEUR AND CINCUSNAVEUR ALSO FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR PBOR UR SS MO AG GE

SUBJECT: MOROCCO RESTORES DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY

1. OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY MAP ANNOUNCED MARCH 5 THAT MOROCCO AND GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAD DECIDED TO RESTORE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, FOLLOWING "MULTIPLE CONTACTS DURING WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR HAD EXPRESSED ITS REAL WILL AND SINCERE DESIRE TO NORMALIZE TIES WITH MOROCCO ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS COOPERATION AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS." RELATIONS HAD BEEN RUPTURED ON NOVEMBER 13, 1975 BECAUSE OF WHAT THE GOM PERCEIVED AS A HOSTILE EAST GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MOROCCO'S CAMPAIGN TO RECOVER THE SAHARA.

2. THE RESTORATION HAD BEEN EXPECTED FOR SEVERAL DAYS. PRIME MINISTER OSMAN, DURING RECENT CONVERSATION ABOUT HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW (SEPTTEL) INDICATED TO ME THAT REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY WOULD BE A UNILATERAL GESTURE BY MOROCCO TOWARD USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE, IN LIGHT OF SOVIET PROFESSIONS OF DESIRE TO SEE REDUCTION OF TENSIONS IN NORTH AFRICA.

3. CZECH AMBASSADOR COMMENTED ON MARCH 5 THAT EASTERN EUROPEANS WOULD NOT BE RECOGNIZING ALGERIAN-SPONSORED SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC. HE GAVE IMPRESSION THAT THIS WAS QUID PRO QUO FOR MOROCCAN RESTORATION OF RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY, WHICH HE SAID HE HAD NEGOTIATED AS REPRESENTATIVE OF PROTECTING POWER FOR GDR INTERESTS DURING THE BREAK.

4. COMMENT: BREAK WITH EAST GERMANY HAD UNDOUBTEDLY SERVED ITS PURPOSE OF PUTTING USSR AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS ON NOTICE THAT RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO WOULD BE LARGELY A FUNCTION OF THEIR APPROACH TO SAHARA DISPUTE. PRIMIN OSMAN IN MOSCOW APPARENTLY RECEIVED ADEQUATE ASSURANCES THAT USSR TAKING AS BALANCED AN APPROACH AS COULD BE EXPECTED, THEREBY PAVING WAY FOR GENERAL IMPROVEMENT WITH USSR AS WELL AS RESTORATION WITH GDR. APPARENT SUCCESS OF MOROCCO'S EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMACY MAY ALSO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO FIRMNESS GOM SHOWING TOWARD ALGERIA, AS REFLECTED IN BREAK OF RELATIONS WITH GOA ANNOUNCED MARCH 7.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, POLICIES, RECOGNITION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RABAT01300
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760087-0186
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760384/aaaacwcz.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOROCCO RESTORES DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, PDIP, UR, SS, MO, AG, GC, XH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006